





on reference to the correspondence, your Committee cannot but be of opinion that such a would, in their opinion, override the benefits likely to result from the proposed measure, which there are reasons to believe is receiving the favorable attention of the Government. (Appendix H)

#### QUARANTINE.

As no appeal has been made to the Chamber during the past year, your Committee have not dealt directly with this subject, but on reference to the correspondence it will be seen that attention was drawn to the publication of a statement attributed to Sir Joseph Fayer, bearing on the question of Quarantine in connection with the Indian Government, which your Committee have taken steps to verify. (Appendix F)

#### STAMP FEES ON BILLS OF EXCHANGE.

It was brought to the notice of your Committee that an innovation was established in July, 1886, whereby the Banks of the Colony threw upon the mercantile community the whole expense of providing stamps on all Bills of Exchange, whether bought or sold. After representation to the various Bank Managers, it is the pleasing duty of your Committee to report that a scheme was drawn up and agreed to, very much on the lines of those that previously prevailed, whereby the tax of providing stamps is equitably apportioned between buyers and sellers. (Appendix G)

#### MAIL SERVICE VIA CANADIAN AND PACIFIC ROUTES.

A special meeting of the Committee was held on the 27th June last, to consider a letter from the Agents of the Canadian Pacific Railway with regard to the desirability of establishing a Mail service between Hongkong and Vancouver, to alternate with the existing P. & O. service via Suez, and requesting that the Home Government might be placed in possession of the Chamber's views before the 30th day of June, on which date the subject was to come up for discussion in Parliament. The members are aware that when the subject of the new contract for the Eastern Mail service was referred to the Chamber in June 1886, it was then decided that the proposed Canadian route was practically useless so far as Hongkong was concerned. On reconsideration of the question, one year later, your Committee considered that a subsidiary special service via Pacific and Canadian routes would be advantageous to the mercantile public and was especially desirable on political grounds, provided this Colony was not called upon to contribute to the proposed undertaking. A resolution to this effect was passed, the Agents of Canadian Pacific Railway were duly advised, and the contents were telegraphed to H.M.S. Chancellor of the Exchequer. (Appendix K)

RATES CHARGED BY THE IMPERIAL CHINESE MARITIME CUSTOMS FOR THE STORAGE OF OPIUM.

Representations were made to the Chamber by Merchants largely interested in the Opium trade regarding the high rates which the Chinese Customs were charging for the storage of Opium in their bonded warehouses at Foochow and Amoy, and the Chamber was requested to intervene in this matter with a view to secure some rebate from the tax. From information which your Committee received on the subject they were all but unanimous in deciding that it was inexpedient for the Chamber to take any action supporting the communication that had been addressed to them. (Appendix L)

#### LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

The Local Government notified the Chamber, in September last, that Mr. T. Jackson had resigned his seat as the Chamber's Representative in the Legislative Council and requested the Chamber to nominate another Member to fill his place. For this purpose a Special General Meeting of the Chamber was held on the 17th September, when the Vice-Chairman, Mr. A. P. MacEwen, who had previously represented the Chamber as Acting Member, was again unanimously elected as their permanent nominee. (Appendix M)

#### ALLEGED CONTEMPLATED CONVENTION BETWEEN THE FOREIGN TELEGRAPH COMPANIES AND THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT.

The Shanghai General Chamber of Commerce forwarded copy of a letter addressed by that Chamber to the Doyen of the Diplomatic Body in Peking, protesting against the alleged contemplated convention between the existing European Telegraph Companies and the Chinese Government, and invited the co-operation of the Chamber to support their communication. The reply of your Committee to this representation was to the effect that they concurred with the views held by the Shanghai Chamber, that every effort should be made to oppose any attempt, direct or indirect, to increase the burdens on trade, and the attention of Her Britannic Majesty's Representative at Peking was invited to a Resolution expressing the views of your Committee and urging that His Excellency would use his influence to check the consummation of a scheme, which, if carried into effect, would prove detrimental to the interests of the mercantile communities in the Far East. (Appendix N)

#### BRITISH TRADE DOLLAR.

A letter, dated 20th December, 1887, was received from the Singapore Chamber of Commerce, forwarding a Paper laid before the Legislative Council of the Straits Settlements, containing a lengthy correspondence embracing the views of the Lords of the Treasury, the Secretary of State for the Colonies, and the Master of the Mint, together with a letter from the Directors of the Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China, expressing opinions adverse to this project. The difficulties which have attended the attempt to introduce a new coinage for use in the British Colonies in the East have been so great, and the opinions of parties consulted so divergent, that the Singapore Chamber announces its intention to abandon all further attempts to obtain legislation on the subject. (Appendix O)

PROPOSED LIGHT ON THE GAP ROCK.

The Chairman, in his remarks on this subject which appeared in the Report for last year, expressed the confidence he felt that the representations offered by the Chamber, the difficulties which had hitherto stood in the way of the undertaking would be removed and that the requisite authority to commence work would be shortly sanctioned. These expectations, so far, have not been realized, but your Committee are aware that the matter is now engaging the active attention of the Government and trust that no further delay will take place.

#### PARTIAL BLOCKADE OF THE WESTERN ENTRANCE TO THE HARBOUR.

The subject of the construction of a Breakwater on Kaitia Bank, as a protective measure in case of necessity, to partially block the Western Entrance of the Harbour, has again been brought before the Chamber by the Local Government, who, in view of the present position of the question, deem it desirable that all correspondence connected with this matter should, for the present, be treated confidentially.

#### MISCELLANEOUS.

One Arbitration case was submitted for the decision of the Committee, under the rules of the Chamber, framed for that purpose.

On the 1st February the Local Government communicated copy of a letter and enclosure from the Acting Consul for France, calling attention to the necessity for all vessels proceeding to Saigon, to be supplied with Bills of Health.

The Local Government forwarded, for the information of the Chamber, the prospectus of the Adelaide Jubilee International Exhibition, and copy of a notice respecting the proposed Paris Universal Exhibition, 1889.

At the request of Admiral Sir R. Vesey Hamilton, K.C.B., full statistics were furnished by the Chamber respecting the Trade and Trade Routes between China and the Australasian Colonies.

On the 10th March the Chamber received from the Local Government copy of a letter from Her Britannic Majesty's Minister at Peking, giving cover to translation of a Memorial published in the Peking Gazette, 6th February, 1887—which will be found in Appendix P—on the subject of the removal of the prohibition that has hitherto existed on the export of Iron from the Kwangtung and Kwangsi Provinces.

Your Committee have had submitted to them by the Local Government Mr. Bourne's interesting report—Parts I and II—on his journey in South Western China, from which it appears that he travelled through a portion of the country visited by Mr. Moss in 1869 under the auspices of this Chamber.

A letter of the 5th September was received from the Consul for France, forwarding a chart of the Lower Mouth of the River Loire, giving details in extenso of the approaches to the Port of St. Nazaire with statistics relative to the Docks and Ship Building Yards established at that place.

A copy of the *Journal Officiel de la Cochinchine Française* has been received containing the Tarif Douanier de L'Indo-Chine Française.

#### FINANCE.

The accounts have been audited by Messrs. John Thurnburn and E. W. Rutter.

The balance at credit of the Chamber on 31st December, 1887, amounted to \$574.61, exclusive of \$5,000 on deposit with the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation at 5 per cent. interest.

#### THE HONGKONG GENERAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE IN ACCOUNT CURRENT WITH THE SECRETARY.

Jan. to Dec., 1887. Dr.

To Rent, 12 months, at \$50 per month..... 600.00  
" Secretary's salary..... 1,500.00  
" Clerk's salary..... 450.00  
" Servants wages..... 90.00  
" Auditors' fees, 1886..... 40.00  
" Arbitration Fee..... 30.00  
" Printing circulars, &c..... 93.80  
..... \$3,639.80

Reuter's Political Telegram 3,600.00  
" Printing & circulating same 119.00  
..... 3,719.00

" Subscription to Newspapers 118.92  
" Advertising..... 32.05  
" Telegrams..... 1.55  
" Postage & Receipt Stamps, Stationery and Fictives..... 124.43  
..... 274.95

Balance to New Account..... 7,632.75

By Balance from last account..... 175.33

" Subscriptions of members 1887..... \$1,840.00

" Sales of circulars, including postage..... 1,227.30

By Balance brought down..... 1,598.08

" Subscriptions to Political Telegrams..... 3,886.52

" Arbitration fee..... 50.00  
..... 7,374.60

" Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation..... 250.80

" Interest on fixed deposit, \$5,000 at 5 per cent..... 32.57  
..... \$7,832.50

By Balance brought down..... 198.75

For circulars, for quarter ending 31st December, 1887..... 198.75

By fixed deposit with Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, at 5 per cent..... \$5,000.00

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at the Naval Hospital gate. I never saw the prisoner before.

Cross-examined by Mr. Webber—I came here in H.M.S. *Tamar* and previous to that was in Portsmouth. I was in the habit of going out with the big dog, but never wore a white apron outside the Hotel. Have been in the habit of taking walks by myself. It is my usual custom to go along the Queen's Road and turn up the road by the Church, opposite the Cricket Ground. I have seen goldfish in the verandah at the back of Murray Barracks, but have never kissed my hand to them. I have waved my whip at them sometimes, but have never waved my handkerchief. I have only spoken to one private soldier in the colony, and have never walked with any of them. I cannot say how many marines I know here; I have spoken to one only since I have been ashore, as far as I recollect. I have never walked with any marine, nor with any soldier or sailor. I first met the prisoner as I was going up Morrison Hill. I spoke to a soldier one day near the Church, but cannot swear that I ever spoke to the prisoner. The occasion was two weeks ago to-day; the soldier asked me about the dog, what breed it was, and I said it was a St. Bernard. I told him I had come out in the *Tamar* and was staying at the Hongkong Hotel. He walked with me to the Hotel; I won't swear that he did not shake hands with me. We had some conversation on the way to the Hotel; he did not ask if I were coming out at night. I cannot swear that prisoner is the man I never have had a mishap of this kind before, and never before met any marines. I don't know the Government Schools at Wanchai, nor am I acquainted with Private Marsh of the 5th Regiment (Marsh was brought into Court and not acknowledged). I will swear I never made a salutation to Marsh in the Happy Valley. I went about fifty yards up Morrison Hill, and swear that I did not speak to the prisoner until he touched my hand. I have no idea what time I spoke to the soldier near the Church; perhaps it was between 5 and 6 in the evening, on the bank near the Parade Ground. He did not know my Christian name. I did not have gloves on during that occasion. Prisoner touched my left hand and said "I wish you would walk on." These were the first words I uttered. I had gone some distance up Kennedy Road when I saw the prisoner coming; he did not touch my hand till I got to the Black Rock, and I had not spoken before to him. When he pulled me to the ground it was quite unaware. I noticed that his person was exposed when I was lying on the ground.

At this moment, 3.45 p.m., the plaintiff fell off of the witness box in a fainting condition, and was immediately picked up by the police and carried out of Court.

Mr. Wotton suggested to the Court that more formal evidence might be proceeded with. Com. Acam, Chinese master, examined by Mr. Wotton—I live at Wanchai and saw the prisoner walking with the complainant on the afternoon of the 5th inst. I was gathering sticks near my house when I noticed prisoner with a lady, near No. 3 Police station. They were going east from the Public Gardens. The lady wanted to turn down one road and the man would not let her. That is the man (pointing to prisoner). The lady in the room now is the one I saw. On her refusing to go with him he pressed her down to the ground, she then called out and waved her hands to me. After struggling with the man she got up, his trousers were down at the time. The lady then took hold of the man's arm and walked with him to Queen's Road. I did not go to her assistance because I am a woman and they were both English. They did not appear to be walking in a friendly way.

Mr. Webber—The prisoner was with the lady when I first saw him, and after they had got up from the ground he held him by the wrist. At first I thought they were sweethearts. Afterwards the lady wanted to turn down a path, but the man wanted her to remain on the ground. She was about five minutes on the ground; I saw her get up; she was struggling to do so, and afterwards they walked away together; I did not notice any dog.

By his Worship—I saw the man adjusting his dress. I did see a dog about the same time, but not with them, it had a muzzle on.

Carran Sing P. C., examined by Mr. Wotton—I was on duty near Kennedy Road on the afternoon of the 5th inst., and saw the prisoner in company with the lady lately in Court. He was holding her hand and refused to go with him. The lady called me, and then the prisoner took off his hat and bowed the lady's hand. The lady then told me to take prisoner into custody. I asked her for what, but she did not say further than "I must have this man arrested." She was crying. On the way to the station prisoner began to cry; he was under the influence of liquor. On getting near the station he began to roll about.

By his Worship—Her petticoat was a little muddy.

By Mr. Webber—The lady spoke to me first, she said "take this man in charge," and after she had said that I took him into custody. I asked forgiveness. This was while I was taking him into custody. Her clothing was muddy about the back; I did not notice that the prisoner's clothes were muddy.

By his Worship—She appeared to be very sorrowful, and was walking quickly; he was trying to pull her back.

Angus Macaulay, P.S. 30, examined by Mr. Wotton—I was on duty at my station when the prisoner was brought in; he was very much under the influence of liquor. The lady told me that when she saw the prisoner, she saw the prisoner followed her up a good bit, came close up to her, touched her arm, and immediately knocked her down. She did not know how she got up unless it was the dog that kept him off. She turned down a road near some houses when he again repeated the offence of exposing his person and indecently assaulting her. She said that he unbuttoned his trousers and got on the top of her, and then exposed his person, also that he tried to have off his hat and bow the lady's hand. The connection with her. She said that and appeared to be very excited. She then said that she did not wish to prefer a charge against him until she had seen her master. The prisoner heard all the conversation, and told him that he would be charged with the offence. He said "Sergeant, I am very sorry for what has happened, she is a good woman and I know her to be so." She was quite wild at him; her dress was torn behind, and was covered with mud from head to foot; she said he had made two attempts. He was put into a cell about 4.45 and changed into another cell at 7. He was perfectly sober. At this time the plaintiff came back to the station and charged him with the offence of indecent assault. When I found him as sober at 4.45, then I thought he must have been "putting it on" when brought to the station.

By Mr. Webber—Complainant was quite able to explain herself when she first brought prisoner to the station. She was not crying. She said that she had got a good bit of mud on her clothes before she said anything to her; that she then touched her hand and immediately knocked her down, that he then lifted her clothes and exposed his person very much. I did not caution the prisoner.

At this stage the further hearing was postponed until to-morrow at 10.30 a.m.

#### CHINA COAST METEOROLOGICAL REGISTER.

9th March, 1888.—At 4 p.m.

STATION.	Wind.	Bar.	Therm.	Humid.	Dir.	Dist.
Wanchow	SE 10	30.0	78	85	100	100
Yokohama	SE 10	30.0	78	85	100	100
Nagasaki	SE 10	30.0	78	85	100	100
Shanghai	SE 10	30.0	78	85	100	100
Amoy	SE 10	30.0	78	85	100	100
Hankow	SE 10	30.0	78	85	100	100
Harbin	SE 10	30.0	78	85	100	100
Manila	SE 10	30.0	78	85	100	100

9th March, 1888.—At 10 a.m.

STATION.	Wind.	Bar.	Therm.	Humid.	Dir.	Dist.
Wanchow	SE 10	30.0	78	85	100	100
Yokohama	SE 10	30.0	78	85	100	100
Nagasaki	SE 10	30.0	78	85	100	100
Shanghai	SE 10	30.0	78	85	100	100
Amoy	SE 10	30.0	78	85	100	100
Hankow	SE 10	30.0	78	85	100	100
Harbin	SE 10	30.0	78	85	100	100
Manila	SE 10	30.0	78	85	100	100

The barometer has fallen at most stations and gradients are very moderate for calm winds. Cloudy, rather warm and damp weather prevails.

Temperature in level of the sea is between 60 and 65 degrees. Temperature in the air is between 70 and 75 degrees. Humidity in percentage of saturation, the barometer has fallen at most stations and gradients are very moderate for calm winds. Cloudy, rather warm and damp weather prevails.

#### HONGKONG TEMPERATURE.

HONGKONG TEMPERATURE.			
FROM MESSRS. FAIRBANKS & CO.'S BAROMETER.			
TO-DAY.			
Barometer—A.M.	59.8	Barometer—P.M.	59.8
Thermometer—F.M.	60.0	Thermometer—F.M.	60.0
Thermometer—A.M.	60.0	Thermometer—A.M.	60.0
Thermometer—P.M.	60.0	Thermometer—P.M.	60.0
Thermometer—F.M.	60.0	Thermometer—F.M.	60.0
Thermometer—A.M.	60.0	Thermometer—A.M.	60.0
Thermometer—P.M.	60.0	Thermometer—P.M.	60.0
Thermometer—F.M.	60.0	Thermometer—F.M.	60.0
Thermometer—A.M.	60.0	Thermometer—A.M.	60.0
Thermometer—P.M.	60.0	Thermometer—P.M.	60.0
Thermometer—F.M.	60.0	Thermometer—F.M.	60.0
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Thermometer—P.M.	60.0	Thermometer—P.M.	60.0
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Thermometer—A.M.	60.0	Thermometer—A.M.	60.0
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Thermometer—F.M.	60.0	Thermometer—F.M.	60.0
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Thermometer—F.M.	60.0	Thermometer—F.M.	60.0
Thermometer—A.M.	60.0	Thermometer—A.M.	60.0
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Thermometer—F.M.	60.0	Thermometer—F.M.	60.0
Thermometer—A.M.	60.0	Thermometer—A.M.	60.0
Thermometer—P.M.	60.0	Thermometer—P.M.	60.0
Thermometer—F.M.	60.0	Thermometer—F.M.	60.0
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Thermometer—F.M.	60.0	Thermometer—F.M.	60.0
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Thermometer—A.M.	60.0	Thermometer—A.M.	60.0
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Thermometer—F.M.	60.0	Thermometer—F.M.	60.0
Thermometer—A.M.	60.0	Thermometer—A.M.	60.0
Thermometer—P.M.	60.0	Thermometer—P.M.	60.0







## Mails.

**OCCIDENTAL AND ORIENTAL STEAM  
SHIP COMPANY.**

**TAKING CARGO AND PASSENGERS TO  
JAPAN, THE UNITED STATES,  
MEXICO,  
CENTRAL AND SOUTH AMERICA, AND  
EUROPE**

VIA  
THE OVERLAND RAILWAYS,  
AND  
ATLANTIC AND OTHER CONNECTING  
STEAMERS.

## THE Steamship

"GAELIC"  
will be despatched for San Francisco, via  
Yokohama and Honolulu, on WEDNESDAY

Connection will be made at Yokohama with  
Steamers from Shanghai and Japan Ports.  
All PARCEL PACKAGES should be marked to  
be sent by parcel post, and these will be received

the Company's Office until FIVE P.M. the day previous to sailing.

First-class fares granted as follows:—  
 To San Francisco.....\$200.00  
 To San Francisco and return, } 350.00

available for 6 months.....	350.00
To Liverpool.....	333.00
To London.....	138.00

To other European Points at proportionat rates. Special reduced rates granted to Officer of the Army, Navy, Civil Service and th

Imperial Chinese Customs, to be obtained on application.

ing at San Francisco for China or Japan (6  
vice versa) within one year will be allowed  
discount of 10 per cent. This allowance does

discount of 10 per cent. This allowance does not apply to through fares from China and Japan to Europe.

Consular Invoices to accompany Cargo destined to "Points" beyond San Francisco, in the United States, should be sent to the Company

For further information as to Freight c

Passage, apply to the 'Agency' of the Company  
No. 50A, Queen's Road Central.  
C. D. HARMAN.

Hongkong, 3rd March, 1888.

**CANADIAN PACIFIC LINE.**

**TAKING CARGO AND PASSENGERS TO  
JAPAN, CANADA, THE UNITED  
STATES AND EUROPE**

THE CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY

AND OTHER CONNECTING  
RAILWAY LINES & STEAMERS.

**THE British Steamship**  
"PARTHIA"

3,167 Tons Register, Wallace, Commande  
will be despatched for VANGOUVER, B.C.  
and SAN FRANCISCO to NAGASAKI

15th March, at THREE P.M.

Connection will be made at Yokohama with  
Steamers from Shanghai and Japan Ports.

Steamers from Shanghai and Japan Ports, and at Vancouver with Pacific Coast Ports by the regular Steamers of the Pacific Coast Steamship

Through Passage Tickets granted to England, France, and Germany by all trans-Atlantic lines.

First-class Fares granted as follows:—  
To Vancouver and Victoria...(Mex.)\$160.00

To San Francisco.....	175.00
To all Common Points in Canada and the United States.....	200.00

To Liverpool.....	300.00
To London.....	305.00
To other European Points at proportionals	

rates. Special reduced rates granted to Offices of the Army, Navy, Civil Service, and the Imperial Chinese and Japanese Customs to

Consular Invoices to accompany Cargo destined to Ports in the United States, should be